

Daniel Gagnon recognized for his impact on furthering knowledge and understanding of botanicals and their uses.

The American Herbal Products Association (AHPA) is pleased to announce the winners of its 6<sup>th</sup> annual AHPA Awards to recognize individuals and companies making substantive, positive contributions to the herbal products industry. The 2011 AHPA Awards were presented during the association's Annual Member Meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> in Anaheim, California. The AHPA Herbal Insight Award recognizes individuals or non-commercial organizations that have a significant impact on furthering knowledge and understanding of botanicals and their safe use.

This year, the award was presented to the members of the Expert Advisory Council, including Daniel Gagnon, for the revision to AHPA's *Botanical Safety Handbook*. This team of professionals dedicated their life-long knowledge to voluntarily review the current information on botanical safety, providing an invaluable service to the herbal community. The nationally acclaimed reference book provides safety data on more than 600 herbs as guidelines for product labels, including contraindications, side effects and special warnings. The revised edition of the *Botanical Safety Handbook* will be published late this year.

American Herbal Products Association exists to promote the responsible commerce of herbal products. AHPA maintains and improves market opportunities and addresses a variety of labeling and manufacturing issues for companies that sell herbs and herbal products. They also ensure that consumers continue to have informed access to a wide choice of goods. Though AHPA is known as the "herbal" trade association, their influence extends to the entire dietary supplement category and they are always working to ensure a healthy regulatory and business environment for the entire range of health-related products.

When new laws and regulations are being debated, the American Herbal Products Association represents the needs of herbal supplement companies and keeps them informed of new and important developments that affect their industry.

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